



CONNECTIONS

News and Information from OUC—The *Reliable One* | FEBRUARY 2015

INSIDE

Bike Share Program
Energy Saving Travel Tips
Medical Alert Program
History Center
Black History Month



Bike Share Program Rolls Into The City Beautiful

Being The *Reliable One* means being the *Sustainable One* too. From community solar farms and electric vehicles to energy audits and now bike stations that promote pedal power, OUC is on the move to make Orlando the greenest city in the southeast.

The City of Orlando has launched a new bike share program, a first for the City Beautiful. There are currently four stations throughout Downtown Orlando, one of which is sponsored by OUC located right in front of Reliable Plaza. Another 16 stations are planned for phase two of Orlando Bike Share providing a total of 200 bicycles at 20 locations downtown.

For more on Orlando Bike Share, visit www.OrlandoBikeShare.com.

Energy Saving Travel Tips

If you have plans to go out of town anytime soon, now is a good time to add some energy and water saving tips to your travel checklist. Before you leave home, take a few minutes to minimize energy consumption and save on your utility bill while you're away:

- **Air Conditioner:** Turn it off or set your thermostat to 84 degrees. If you have a programmable thermostat, avoid coming home to an uncomfortably warm house by setting it to vacation mode to re-cool your home shortly before you return.



- **Refrigerator:** If you plan to be away for a short time, set your refrigerator thermostat to 38 degrees and 5 degrees for the freezer. For longer trips – typically 4 weeks or more – consider emptying and unplugging your fridge.



- **Water Heater:** Unless you have a tankless unit, set the temperature on your water heater as low as possible or even turn it off at the breaker panel while you're away.



- **Lights:** Turn off the lights in your home before you leave. For security purposes, you may consider leaving an indoor or outdoor light on while you're away. Or plug a couple of lights into a timer to turn the lights on and off for a predetermined length of time to make it appear as if the residence is occupied.



- **Electronics:** Turn off and unplug all electronics while you're away – even if you're not on vacation. Keep in mind that digital displays, instant-on features and remote controls consume energy even while not in use.





Medical Alert Program

OUC offers a Medical Alert Program to customers whose electric service is medically essential. Customers requiring life-sustaining equipment, such as heart monitors, oxygen concentrators, feeding pumps, dialysis machines, etc. should call **407-423-9018**.

An OUC representative will provide details about the program and how you may qualify.



Exhibition Features Largest Collection of African American Story Quilts, February 7 – May 3, 2015

The Orange County Regional History Center, an affiliate of the Smithsonian Institution, is hosting a special exhibition honoring 400 years of African American History through the visual medium of story quilts. *And Still We Rise: Race, Culture and Visual Conversations* is presented by The National Underground Railroad Freedom Center and curated by Carolyn Mazloomi, Ph.D.

And Still We Rise opens February 7 and runs through May 3, 2015. Visit www.thehistorycenter.org for more information.

Quilt Title: 1746_1st Enslaved Poet

Artist: Peggie Hartwell, Summerville, South Carolina

Materials: Cotton fabric, cotton batting, cotton thread, nylon thread

Techniques: Hand appliqué, machine appliqué, machine embroidery, machine quilting (47.5 x 48 in.)



ORANGE COUNTY REGIONAL
HISTORY CENTER

AND STILL WE RISE
RACE, CULTURE AND VISUAL CONVERSATIONS

MORE THAN 60 STORY QUILTS.
400 YEARS OF HISTORY.



Para ver esta edición de *OUConexión*, por favor vaya en línea a espanol.ouc.com.



ORLANDO UTILITIES COMMISSION
RELIABLE PLAZA • 100 W. Anderson Street • Orlando, FL 32801
Tel: 407-423-9018 • www.ouc.com

